

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Delete the last Paragraph on page 8.

Replace the Paragraph bridging pages 33 and 34 with the following:

Figures 22 through 25 show the sixth embodiment of the ghost image formation preventing device. In this embodiment, a semitransparent film is formed on the second reflection surface 13c so as to serve as a beam splitter, and a right-angle prism 18' is cemented to the semitransparent film formed on the second reflection surface 13c. Moreover, a light shield mask 90 (see Figures 24 and 25) having an elongated rectangular aperture 90a, which is identical to that in the above described fifth embodiment, is fixed between the second reflection surface ~~13d~~ 13c and an incident surface 18d of the right-angle prism 18', while the same light shield mask 90 is fixed to an exit surface 18e of the right-angle prism 18'. Accordingly, it can be freely determined which of the reflection surfaces of the Porro prism 13 is formed as a semitransparent mirror. The light shield mask 90 can be positioned to correspond to the position of the semitransparent mirror and/or the position of the exit surface of the right-angle prism 18 or 18' that is cemented to the semitransparent mirror. The shape of the aperture 90a of the light shield mask 90 is identical to that of the light shield mask 90 shown in Figures 20 and 21.

Replace the Paragraph at page 35, line 24 through page 37, line 18, with the following:

Each of the above described first through eighth embodiments of the ghost image formation preventing devices employs the Porro prism 13 as an erecting optical system. Figures 29 through 32 show ninth through eleventh embodiments of the ghost image formation preventing device. Each of the ninth through eleventh embodiments employs a Schmidt prism 130, including a roof prism, shown in Figure 29 as an erecting optical system instead of the Porro prism 13. The Schmidt prism 130 has an incident surface 130a, first through ~~sixth~~ fifth reflection surfaces 130b through 130f and an exit surface 130g as shown in Figures 29 and 30. The fourth reflection surface is a roof surface. A semitransparent film is formed on the second reflection surface 130c so that it serves as a beam splitter. The incident surface 130a extends perpendicular to an optical axis 130X. The light incident on the incident surface 130a is reflected upwards by the first reflection surface 130b at an angle of 90 degrees. Part of the light reflected by the first reflection surface 130b is reflected by the second reflection surface 130c at an angle of 45 degrees in a direction toward the third reflection surface 130d (in a direction oblique and lower rightward as viewed in Figure 29). The light reflected by the second reflection surface 130c is reflected by the third reflection surface 130d at an angle of 90 degrees in a direction oblique and lower leftward as viewed

in Figure 29. The light reflected by the third reflection surface 130d is reflected by the fourth reflection surface 130e at an angle of 90 degrees in a direction toward the fifth reflection surface 130f (in a direction oblique and lower rightward as viewed in Figure 29). The light reflected by the fourth reflection surface 130e is reflected by the fifth reflection surface 130f at an angle of 90 degrees to exit from the exit surface 130g to proceed toward the AF sensor unit 50. The exit surface 130g and the third reflection surface ~~130d~~ 130d are defined on the same plane, and extend perpendicular to an optical axis 130Y2. The optical axis 130Y2 is parallel to the optical axis 130X. A specific surface of a beam splitting prism (a right-angle prism) 18 is cemented to the semitransparent film formed on the second reflection surface 130c. The light which is reflected by the first reflection surface 130b and is subsequently passed through the second reflection surface 130c proceeds toward the AF sensor unit 50 along an optical axis 130Y1.